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AP/ 3621/\$

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE,

Applicant(s): Mehregany et al. Docket No.: 47799.00003
Application No.: 09/677,197 Group Art Unit: 3621
Filing Date: October 2, 2000 Examiner: Kambiz Abdi
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR-ACQUISITION OF RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO

37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Commissioner:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each cited document is submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant reserves the right to dispute any of the listed documents as prior art during examination. Further, Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application. Furthermore, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information may exist.

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are patentable over the foregoing references, alone or in combination. The Examiner is requested to initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and return a copy thereof to the undersigned.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the receipt of the first office action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) and is accompanied by the appropriate fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

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Respectfully submitted,

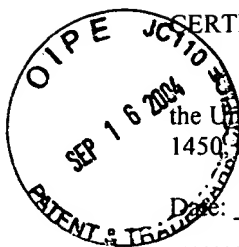
9-14-4

Date

By William R. Bachand
William R. Bachand
Reg. No. 34,980

Enclosures: PTO-1449 w/Cited references

296328



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I, Lisa Mansur, hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

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By

Lisa Mansur

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Mehregany et al.

Docket No.: 47799.00003

Application No.: 09/677,197

Group Art Unit: 3621

Filing Date: October 2, 2000

Examiner: Kambiz Abdi

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ACQUISITION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

TRANSMITTAL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) are (1) the Information Disclosure Statement, (2) the Information Disclosure Citation PTO Form 1449, and (3) cited references, and is accompanied by the appropriate fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

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Respectfully submitted,

Date:

9-14-4

By

William R. Bachand

William R. Bachand
Reg. No. 34,980

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
Two Renaissance Square
40 North Central Avenue, Suite 2700
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4498
(602) 528-4100
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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47799.00003		APPLICATION NO. 09/677,197		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Mehregany et al.				
				FILING DATE October 2, 2000		GROUP 3621		
				TITLE: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ACQUISITION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT				
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		6,598,026	07/22/2003	Ojha et al.				
		6,574,608	06/03/2003	Dahod et al.				
		6,249,769	06/19/2001	Ruffin et al.				
		5,974,403	10/26/1999	Takriti et al.				
		5,794,207	08/11/1998	Walker et al.				
		5,742,776	04/21/1998	Toda				
		5,615,269	03/25/1997	Micali				
		2001/0042056 A1	11/15/2001	Ferguson				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO 01/71594 A1	09/27/2001	PCT				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
		Gerald Salton and Christopher Buckley, "TERM-WEIGHTING APPROACHES IN AUTOMATIC TEXT RETRIEVAL," Department of Computer Science, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, January 26, 1988						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								